

AMD17-053 4/11/08

**Bell, Leanne S (DOT)**

**From:** pjford [pjford@dgsd.k12.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 11, 2008 12:24 PM  
**To:** Sanches, Dave (DOT); Bloom, David T (DOT); ftrichards@alaska.gov; Richards, Frank T (DOT); Titus, James Stephen (DOT); Ottesen, Jeffery C (DOT); Ottesen, Jeffery C (DOT); jfehrenbacher@alaska.gov; Fehrenbacher, Jim (DOT); Dunham, Jon W (DOT); commissioner\_dotpf@dot.state.ak.us; Von Scheben, Leo (DOT); Riordan, Melissa C (DOT); Stumpf, Rj (DOT); Veasey, Teri A (DOT); DOT STIP; Woster, Timothy J (DOT); Woster, Timothy J (DOT)  
**Cc:** hmermelstein@hotmail.com; jpolston1@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** STIP Comment Healy Lake Access Road (Cummings Road Connector)

11 April 2008

Dear Mr. Sanches,

Please accept these comments in support of the Healy Lake Access Road or Cummings Road Connector project and let it reflect that we believe that the state should add this as construction for 09. The Delta/Greely School District and the citizens of the Gerstle River Community appreciate the partnership and support of the Healy Lake Tribe. We further believe this partnership reflects how we should all work together.

Last August we experienced a flooding event. It is not unusual to have Cummings Road flooded and it has in past years impacted our school calendar. Last year the flooding was part of a 20 year cycle or as near as one might predict these events. The Governor's office was involved as well as Homeland Security and the DOT office in Tok. Mr. Mermelstein stepped in and with emergency BIA funds helped the whole community become re-connected to the highway. Cummings Road is critical for the community along that road as well as Healy Lake.

The Delta/Greely School District supports the need for the Healy Lake Access Road Project to be in the FY09 list of Projects. Howard Mermelstein-Director Healy Lake Department of Transportation (MENDAS CHA~AG TRIBE) and the Healy Lake Tribe provided important support to the Gerstle River Community and specifically to the Gerstle River School students and staff last August. We ask that you consider this request to assure that the project move ahead for the 2009 construction list.

Thank you for this opportunity. Again we are very appreciative of the steadfast and supportive work of the Healy Lake Community.

Respectfully,

PJ Ford Slack, Superintendent

**PJ Ford Slack, Ph.D.  
Superintendent**

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